

HOUSE RESOLUTION 123
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to recognize Robert Sharp on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Robert Sharp is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for nearly forty-two years with AAA Auto Club South; and

WHEREAS, his outstanding career with AAA has included meritorious service in the positions of Branch Manager, General Sales Manager, Executive Vice President, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharp's vision and leadership have helped AAA Auto Club South to become the third largest AAA affiliate in the nation; and

WHEREAS, when he began his estimable career with AAA Auto Club South, the company served 57,000 members and employed a staff of 85 people; during his tenure, he has seen the business grow to 3.5 million members and over 3,300 employees in 68 branch offices throughout Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Board of Directors of the national AAA for seventeen years, Mr. Sharp has lent his expertise as Chairman and as a member of numerous vitally important committees; and

WHEREAS, his extensive knowledge of the travel, automobile, and insurance industries has helped him to protect the interests and safety of AAA members and the motoring public throughout his stellar career; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the many contributions he has made to AAA Auto Club South and the business community in his hometown in Florida, Mr. Sharp was lauded by the elite of the Tampa Bay area's executive business leadership in February of 2003, when he was inducted into the Tampa Bay Business Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, his career has been marked by sincere loyalty, a dedicated work ethic, and a commitment to his long-term vision; and

WHEREAS, aware of the importance of both corporate citizenship and individual citizenship, Mr. Sharp is an active and important part of his community as well as his profession, participating in numerous civic organizations, and lending his support to the advancement of tourism and the cruise industry and the promotion of Tampa to its current status as one of the top ports in the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, a 1961 graduate of Florida Southern College, he has made many significant contributions to that school while serving on its Board of Trustees; he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Business degree from the institution in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sharp is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Peggy; his daughter, Robin; his son, Rob, and his wife, Jana; and his most blessed grandson, Fischer; and

WHEREAS, he exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of an exemplary citizen; and

WHEREAS, throughout his stellar career, Robert Sharp has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate Robert Sharp on his induction into the Tampa Bay Business Hall of Fame and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.